

Community Outcomes Meeting

Date: Tuesday, 15 June 2021

Time: 14:30 – 16:00

Via Microsoft Teams

Present

Alison Lowe – Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime Elect

Paula Bickerdike – Superintendent Safeguarding Central Governance Unit WYP

Alan Reiss - Director of Strategy, Communications and Policing

Damon Solley – Superintendent West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit

John Robins – Chief Constable (CC) West Yorkshire Police (WYP)

Tyron Joyce – ACC WYP

Kate Riley – Temporary ACC WYP

Janine Nelson – Head of Policing and Crime

Osman Khan – ACC WYP

Also present

Mark Burns-Williamson – Transition Adviser

Erica Doran – Head of Policy and Delivery, Policing and Crime

Celeste Armitage – Engagement Officer, Policing and Crime

Sergeant Katie Madden – WYP

Paige Cowling – Engagement Officer, Policing and Crime

1.	<p>Welcome, introductions and apologies.</p> <p>In the Mayors absence Alan Reiss Chaired the meeting. He welcomed Alison Lowe, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner Elect who once confirmed in post by the Police and Crime Panel would host future meetings. The confirmation hearing for the Deputy Mayor was scheduled for Friday, 18 June.</p> <p>Apologies were received from Deputy Chief Constable Russ Foster, Allison Kemp, and Sharon Waugh.</p>
2.	<p>Notes of the previous meeting on 16 March 2021 and Matters arising.</p> <p>The notes of the meeting held on 16 March 2021 were agreed as a correct record and there were no matters arising.</p>



3. **Mayor and Chief Constables Announcements.**

There were no Mayoral announcements.

Chief Constable Announcements:

The CC thanked the former Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire, Mark Burns-Williamson, for all his commitment, time, and dedication to policing across West Yorkshire. He offered his congratulations to the Mayor Tracy Brabin and said he looked forward to a long and productive relationship going forward to improve the lives of people across West Yorkshire. Finally, he gave pended congratulations to Alison Lowe for her appointment as Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, and said he looked forward to a positive and engaging relationship.

4. **Countering Terrorism**

The CC stated Countering Terrorism across West Yorkshire was done in partnership with the Counter Terrorism Policing North East counties. West Yorkshire was the lead force for the seven force areas in the North East region. It was often the unseen threat and the unseen work of policing that everybody assumes occurred.

ACC Khan described the prevent business plan being delivered across three pillars: identifying, safeguarding, and managing risks. He said this was identifying those individuals that are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism and radicalisation, or those posing a radicalisation risk to others. The safeguarding element was to protect those that were vulnerable; individuals that were being drawn into it and then the third element was managing risk of those that we would want to target who are causing that counter terror extremist risk.

All the strategies that they were trying to deliver through prevent was to work through a partnership approach across all sectors; public, private, or voluntary.

There were four key priorities within the North East region for 2021 which were highlighted in the report.

ACC Khan said that the national review, which was being done by William Shawcross, was slightly delayed but expected to be presented by the end of the year. He was also working to promote the Act Early campaign and website, which educated individuals on the threats, signs, and referral routes around prevent and radicalisation. For more information, please visit the website <https://actearly.uk/> .

To access the full report, click [here](#).

Alan Reiss thanked ACC Khan for the report and said that there was a renewed opportunity to emphasize the importance of partnership working all aspects of devolution and in support of all the Mayor's objectives.



He referred to the report referencing counter terrorism work with partners to assess, manage and disrupt those individuals who pose a counter terrorism or extremism risk and asked what more partners might be able to do to help.

ACC Khan said there was need for more partnership working and that the only way they could tackle individuals that either cause risk or need safeguarding experience was to work with identified partners. He explained whether that be from a public sector point of view, private sector, or charities. He said WYP needed those agencies, especially those agencies that were dealing with ex terrorist offenders, to continuously feed in any concerns they may have about individuals so that they can make sure that the intelligence information was up to date at all times and then be able to provide appropriate support.

Alan Reiss noted that ACC Khan wouldn't be able to speak about specific cases but asked in relation to right wing terrorism in certain communities within West Yorkshire, to what extent was this a significant problem what was the response from policing and partners.

Extreme right-wing terrorism was the fastest growing ideology in the UK in recent years and accounted for around 24% of Prevent referrals nationally. He said it was not so much of a concern locally though because West Yorkshire had engagement and training support that had been offered by prevent policing and local authority colleagues to raise awareness around this growing threat area. He said this had generated more referrals so in some respects this area of the work had been increased. They were 'a victim of their own successes because of the training and awareness inputs on this but West Yorkshire itself hadn't seen an increase or raised community tensions.

Finally, the report referred to the fact that embedding vulnerability to radicalisation was an important aim of improving public protection. He asked how that approach was going and how they would know when they had succeeded.

ACC Khan said Prevent was about working with partners and gave examples around multi agency risk assessments, it was important to identify those who were more susceptible to radicalisation and put them in touch with people that could take them away from that space.

5. Safeguarding

Paula Bickerdike provided an overview of the report and highlighted the key areas of focus. She said that work was ongoing nationally through the national vulnerability knowledge and practice programme to ensure the response to lockdown periods was assessed, and the safeguarding central governance unit was collecting best practice data from across the force. Business as usual had been maintained throughout the pandemic, including training, and had increased internal communications, particularly around professional curiosity.

In terms of crime recording trends for March 20-21, although it was expected they had not seen any increase in current or recent sexual offending against children, she was mindful however that other agencies such as the NSPCC had reported increased numbers of calls and delayed reporting was possible.



Domestic Abuse was an area of continuing demand, but no significant change had been identified throughout the pandemic, including in care homes. Mental health had continued to be a priority and the partnerships already in place e.g., with adults' social care had been beneficial throughout the pandemic, allowing fast and effective responses, incidences had however remained like pre-covid levels in all districts. Inevitably, there had been a back log in the court system, however they had worked hard to create extra capacity and this back log had now significantly reduced.

Alan Reiss referred to a case that had been in the media recently and said that we know people go missing for many reasons and that this could be very distressing for families and exposed people to additional risks. He asked as well as the police finding those people what was being done to prevent them going missing in the first place and importantly going missing again?

Paula said that preventing anyone going missing involved a multi-agency approach both with the child and their family. They were heavily involved in the Local Authority early intervention hubs and in understanding the driving factors. Missing cases were dealt with by frontline policing, with support from missing from home co-ordinators. In respect of children, the multi-agency child exploitation (MACE) framework allowed partners to work together to quickly identify and address instances of missing children. They also had child exploitation vulnerability teams in each district who worked hard to safeguard victims and prosecute perpetrators. There were also links with district Serious Organised Crime Teams for instances where there was OCG (organised crime group) involvement. They were also using the Philomena protocols which were a nationally recognised tool to identify children at risk of going missing which allowed information to be collated more quickly. Locality risk assessments had been positive, looking at areas in which children were going missing more frequently. In addition, they also had truancy and absconding policies in place.

To access the full report, click [here](#).

Alan Reiss noted that to protect vulnerable people and especially children who were at risk of harm, up to date and accurate information was needed so you could build a picture and ensure the right interventions were put in place. He asked how this was working in West Yorkshire and what more could be done to improve this?

Paula Bickerdike said they had a legal obligation and a statutory duty to work together around children, so all their work was underpinned by the Children Act 2004 and amended children and Social Care Act 2017. Good working relationships were already in place prior to this in West Yorkshire and those had continued. There were arrangements in place within each district and they aimed to have a consistent approach. They also worked closely with partners through the risk and vulnerability group that was set up by the former OPCC and which would continue post transition and was an excellent forum for information sharing.

	<p>They also played key parts in various other regional partnership meetings. Although the pandemic had raised various challenges it had also prompted some good practice which they would retain, e.g., around information sharing. At district level there was also several partnership meetings in place and daily risk assessment meetings. Improvements had also recently been made to their referrals process for children and they had recently finished piloting the Protection Procedures Notices (PPN) which allowed for a more accountable and searchable, real-time system and could be used on officer's handheld devices.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Serious and Violent Crime</p> <p>Damon Solley spoke briefly about Operation Jemlock and said that their funding for this year was smaller, which meant their footprint was also smaller. They were concentrating on the lifting of the lockdown. The Home Office had asked them to concentrate on using data analytics to carry out hot spot policing which was another area of focus. So far, they had made over 5500 arrests, 750 knives and weapons seized and had seen reductions in knife crime, robbery, and robbery with a knife. There had also been significant reductions in discharges of firearms. They had a joint approach involving both national and regional colleagues regarding County Lines. With regards to child offenders, they had a focus on teachable moments with outreach workers stationed in custody and in A&E and Safer Schools Officers were delivering knife crime sessions in schools.</p> <p>In terms of partnership working, they also took part in Operation Sceptre, which was a national week of action test purchasing operation. The highlight of the Programme Precision update was that they continued to map all urban street gangs and scored them, and each had a lead officer to concentrate on those individuals. They also worked closely with Neighbourhood Policing to deliver local enforcement operations.</p> <p>To access the full report, click here.</p> <p>Alan asked what the force were doing to prepare for the new policing and crime sentencing and courts bill and how they were working with partners to understand how the required action in the serious violence duty would be implemented.</p> <p>Damon said the bill was still a way off, however the serious violence duty required organisations to formulate an evidence-based analysis of the problems and then produce and implement a strategy. He said the VRU had enabled them to get ahead in formulating the evidence and response strategy. The knowledge hub had also produced local strategies for the CSPs. The plans and strategies were discussed and progressed through partnership meetings. In terms of the serious violence reduction orders element, they had been involved in this from the start and were supportive of the move. They were awaiting the outcome of the trials.</p>

Alan tasked aside from work through the VRU, to what extent was the force embedding a public health approach to tackling serious violent crime. Damon said that the VRU had been central to enabling this work and embedding the approach. Findings and best practice were shared through partnership meetings which the force was represented on, and they had a close working relationship with colleagues across districts to emphasise the importance of early intervention and diversionary tactics.

In terms of those wanted for outstanding serious and violent crime offences looked. Damon said that the numbers of wanted persons changed every day, so an accurate record was difficult. Operation Jemlock were tasked daily with making those arrests on behalf of districts and in 2020, 2431 arrests were made in total, of which 1132 were wanted persons, the majority of which were for serious violence offences. Approximately half of all arrests by Jemlock for 2021 so far had also been wanted persons.

7. Exception Report - Violence Against Women and Girls

Alan welcomed the exception report on Violence Against Women and Girls and said whilst everything that had been discussed today was of huge importance to the Mayor, this topic in was one which relates to one of her 10 manifesto pledges; to keep women and girls safe in West Yorkshire.

CC Robins said WYP had always been working on this agenda and violence against women and girls had been at the heart of their work over the past five years. He explained WYP had specific strategies on it but welcomed the renewed focus on it that would help WYP increase partnership working. CC Robins welcomed Paula Bickerdike to present the paper.

Paula explained that this agenda had always been part of Safeguarding and highlighted strategies from 2016 which had been refreshed in 2019. She said that it was defined as anyone who experiences violence, abuse, and intimidation against those who identify as women and girls. She anticipated there would be a cross party government strategy released soon and said that any new actions which would come from a new strategy will be embedded in their current action plan.

She spoke about some workstreams which they further detailed in the report, including raising awareness, media strategies, identifying those who may be at risk of gangs and funded work in Newhall, West Yorkshire's female prison. She explained it was important to maximise the use of powers through the Domestic Abuse Bill and about using Independent Domestic Violence Advisors and Independent Sexual Violence Advisors to support victims.

To access the full report, click [here](#).

Alan said looking at the way that the criminal justice system worked nationally, the outcomes for rape and serious sexual offences across the country were low and don't give confidence to victims. He said in an environment where victims go through a traumatic experience and then find it difficult to report, they need

to understand that they will be listened to and that as much as possible would be done to secure a successful outcome for them. Alan asked Paula about the latest picture in West Yorkshire.

WYP were very passionate about improving those outcomes and that they had a rape and domestic abuse improvement group set up specifically to work with partners from victim services and the CPS to improve those outcome rates for charges and prosecutions right up to court cases for victims. She offered reassurance that the files they presented were of a high standard before they go to the CPS and because of that, WYP record the third highest number of charging summons per thousand population of all 43 forces in relation to serious sexual offences. They also record the highest rate of charging summons per thousand population. She explained this was against a backdrop of high recording rates.

Paula said they were also working with the CPS on the National Joint Action Plan that would cover the next 3 years. She explained it would continue to evolve during that time and would be reviewed and updated as necessary to reflect appropriate findings from the cross-party government review. She explained that WYP were also setting up a rape scrutiny panel that would allow them to present rape cases in a sanitized way to a group of interested parties and partners, to ask them for their professional scrutiny of what had been done. Alan said that it was a particular topic which needed further discussion across the whole of the CJS to ensure that cases were being supported, right the way through. He explained not just the interface between the police and the CPS, but what happened beyond that, particularly about support for victims.

He also noted the report had no mention of hate crime against women or misogyny, and asked in relation to the recent review by the Law Commission about the definition of a hate crime, what was West Yorkshire's current approach to this performance on crime recording and how would she see it developing in the future?

Paula said WYP do not shy away from open and honest crime recording so welcomed the opportunity to record misogyny and gender-based hate crime as misogyny. She explained that nationally, there is no specific definition on this yet, but that CC Robins has said they would not wait for this and would start recording it. CC Robins said WYP were going to start the internal work in the Autumn, in preparation to receive what is being proposed nationally. CC Robins also said if he didn't feel that if the national guidance wasn't wide enough, more work would be done in West Yorkshire.

Alan asked if he could have some further information on how the relationship worked between the police and the need for services that were commissioned by local authorities, and were there any challenges arising or opportunities arising from different approaches in different Council areas?

Paula explained that the provision was funded by the local authorities so it could be different between the five districts. She said they would monitor this through their partnership leads and had strong relationships with the providers

	<p>for each of the five districts. She reassured Alan that the providers would have different ways of working but that did not relate to a different service for victims, and that WYP were careful to ensure that it was not the case. She said the strong relationships were embedded within each district through the domestic abuse hubs and at the meetings they work directly with officers.</p> <p>She also gave an update on domestic abuse cars which operated during peak times of demand; Friday and Saturday evenings, and those officers and providers attend live domestic abuse incidents together to give early support to victims which is crucial. She said unfortunately the Covid-19 pandemic had affected what was able to be offered but that the main challenge is the availability of the providers to be able to respond. She also explained the providers were facing their own challenges due to covid as well and this restricts how they can deliver.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR)</p> <p>ACC Tyron Joyce introduced the paper and gave a summary of what SPR was about. He explained it required police and crime commissioners or deputy mayors to have consideration of how we deliver against five or six key areas. WYP had done their best to try and stretch capability and capacity to try and keep people safe within West Yorkshire and beyond. WYP ran several partnerships and for four years he was the NPAS lead (National Police Air Service) which was a function that was delivered now by West Yorkshire Police on behalf of the 43 forces.</p> <p>SPR included terrorism, serious and organised crime, national cyber security, public disorder, civil emergencies, and child sexual abuse. Part B of the SPR requirement looked at how forces delivered in terms of capability, capacity, consistency, and connectivity with other key partners.</p> <p>In terms of counter terrorism, West Yorkshire hosted the counter Policing North East Hub, which served 7 forces in the North East region (established in 2007) it was part of the National Counter Terrorism Network.</p> <p>With regards to serious and organised crime, WYP worked with key partners to deliver the Home Office SOC strategy through Programme Precision, which has a centralised function, and it had a territorial footprint. WY also hosted the Regional Organized Crime Unit (ROCU), which delivered the strategy, and in 2020 WYP had adopted a new type of profiling.</p> <p>The ROCU hosted the National Cyber Crime Unit, and their dark web facility, and they had had a significant investment into their digital forensic capabilities.</p> <p>In terms of public disorder, as a strategic force, WYP had the capacity to deliver level one public order response. Despite the challenges around training due to Covid, the force had been able to stand up to its commitment of police officers.</p>

In terms of civil emergencies, ACC Joyce was the COVID gold lead for the force and said the innovation and the joint working on the effectiveness of partners had been exemplary and had been commented on by the National Police Chiefs Council.

ACC Joyce didn't go into detail on Sexual Abuse as that had been covered at item 7.

To access the full report, click [here](#).

Alan asked what impact COVID had on refresher training and in particular the ongoing recertification of officers in specialist skills, specifically about things like public order and had that led to any issues.

WY had taken a very balanced approach and managed and maintain their specialist skills to protect the public. A risk-based approach was taken for some functions, for example firearms, whilst they were made COVID compliant, there was no change in capacity in terms of training. In other areas they did have to scale off some of the training such as driving, however this was constantly reviewed and the College of Policing extended licenses in some areas for three months. They were now able to fully meet their strategic requirement in terms of public order capability and capacity as a regional partner and provide mutual aid to other forces where required.

Alan then asked how the Force had ensured they had an up-to-date record of who was qualified in each of the skill areas to ensure that they were able to deploy what was needed at any given time.

ACC Joyce said WYP were lucky that they didn't have to double or triple hat. Although they did have multi-skilled officers, they tried to keep those specialisms in certain areas, and to compliment the skills that each of the officers had. Chronicle was the live system which gave up to the minute information on who was qualified on each skill. Some of these were for a period of licensing, so the system not only prompted the number of people that they had with those skills it also flagged up when they're due to renew them. He was confident that WYP were able to deliver even in times of challenge such as Covid, or other major operations.

9. **Road Safety**

ACC Joyce summarised the strategy, he said that his belief was that the members of public and people moving through West Yorkshire had an absolute right to be able to use the road safely and to do so without fear of the small minority of people that acted in an anti- social way.

Collisions had reduced significantly, and WYP had maintained the footprint in terms of Roads policing officers throughout Covid, not only to provide a safety on the roads, but to also target people who were involved in crime.

Regarding outcomes in terms of disruption of criminality, they reported very favourably an increase, this ensured that those involved in drink, driving and

drug driving were targeted, arrested, and removed from the roads. One of their areas of ongoing work was Vision zero which worked towards safer roads, safer vehicles, and safer road users. One of the challenges was that partners were at different levels of maturity around their ability to support vision zero, and they were looking at how to effectively share information from all partners and drive activity.

Operation SNAP, which was a citizen reporting digital submission portal had been developed. Up until 1 April 21, in nine months of operation, 1811 submissions were received by the SNAP Portal. Submissions were from members of the public who witnessed dangerous, inconsiderate, or anti-social driver behaviour. WYP reviewed this and were able to contact some of the drivers. Most of the work was around educational courses and conditional offers. About 5% of the referrals ended up at court. This wasn't an income generating exercise, it was to ensure peoples bad behaviour on the roads was challenged and they were educated and supported to be better drivers.

To access the full report, click [here](#).

Alan said that as well as police and crime functions the Mayor was also responsible for a range of issues around transport and investment in transport infrastructure. The devolution deal was around increased investment in infrastructure for cycling and walking to help make the roads safer and the Combined Authority was working to encourage more people to cycle and walk. He asked what trends they were capturing around vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists, and motorcyclists and what work they were doing to address that.

Tyron said that from April 20 - March 21, in terms of pedestrians, there were 17 fatalities, 120 serious injuries and 350 pedestrians that had slight injuries. In terms of cyclists there were 5 fatal, 94 serious, 328 slight injuries. Many of these elements were examined by partners to try identify wherever possible, how they could have prevented it or disrupted it. This was the essence of Vison Zero. In terms of work with partners, they had the Cycle Safe Pass campaign, which encouraged motorists to provide sufficient spacing to passing cyclists. They were also maximizing the use of plainclothes officers around incidents of off-road biking which were being used in an anti-social way. Many pedestrian offenses were committed on recreational land, so that increased the risk to vulnerable road users. Understanding where the risks occurred was key to disrupt and mitigate it, and joint working was needed for this.

Alan then asked for a quick summary on the joint working.

ACC Joyce said the main thing was around the Vision Zero concept. He recognised that although people were supportive, Vision Zero required longer-term investment and there were some significant budget deficits. They were keen to share intelligence, Covid had shown that whilst data protection was

	<p>important, there was a desire to do the right thing and they were building on that with council partners.</p> <p>With regards to the delays in the roll out of the national ANPR, ACC Joyce said the force was disappointed in the progress and it didn't currently deliver the capability that they had in West Yorkshire. The expectation was that it would deliver at least that, and they had extended current provisions to ensure the delays did not impact West Yorkshire. They had just entered into an agreement with Leeds Council to use some of the cameras in Leeds to target some areas of concern in terms of traffic management. So that's a good example of effective partnership working.</p>
10.	<p>Future Agenda Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Social Behaviour • Drugs and Alcohol • Mental Health • Use of Force • Neighbourhood Policing <p>Exception report – theme to be agreed</p>
11.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>The CC said the progressive and supportive nature of the PCC previously had led to having the VRU in the way it was along with several other structures so asked for the Deputy Mayor's continued support and partnership working in this way. He also spoke about the Pol-Ed programme which included the important topics discussed today. It was a long-term sustainable programme and he urged schools in West Yorkshire to take it up.</p>
12.	<p>Next Meeting 14 September 2021 at 1400</p>